

**PUBLIC MEETING**  
**U.S. MARINE CORPS PROPOSED JUNGLE WARFARE TRAINING**  
**Wednesday, March 5, 2003**  
**7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.**  
**Windward Community College**  
**Hale Akoakoa, Rooms 101-105**  
**Kaneohe, Hawaii**

**AGENDA**

Opening Remarks

Presentation on Proposed Project, Need, and Process Options

*Community Comments*

Training Scenarios

*Community Comments*

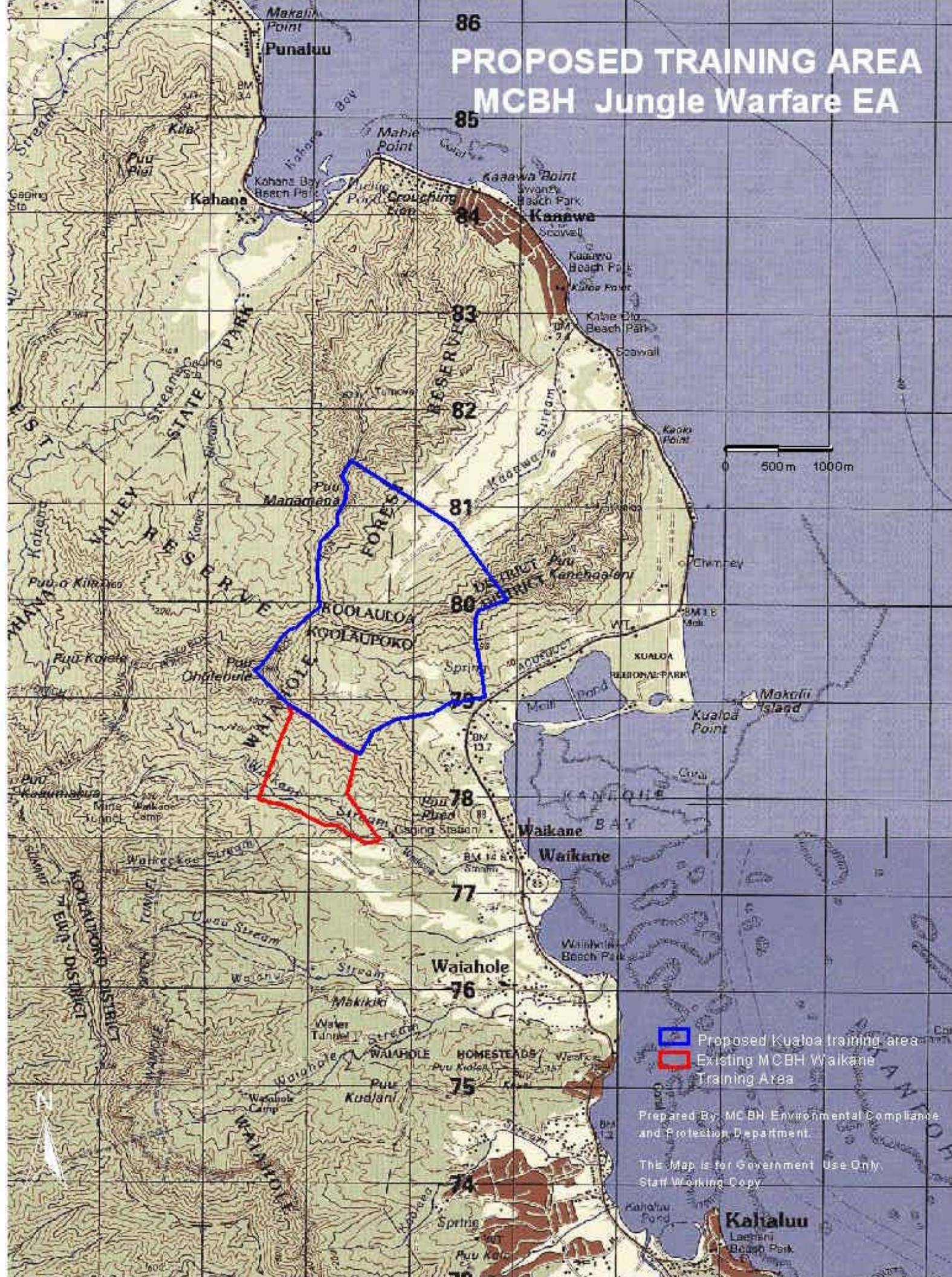
What's On / Not On the Table

*Community Comments*

Additional Community Concerns

Next Steps / Closing Comments

# PROPOSED TRAINING AREA MCBH Jungle Warfare EA



# Current and Former Waiahole/Waikane Boundary Map

1061ac

187ac

2000+ac



Waikane Valley  
Training Area Boundary



Waiahole  
Training Area Boundary



Waikane Training Area  
(Current Marine Corps  
Boundary)

**Environmental Assessment Preparation Team  
U.S. Marine Corps Proposed Jungle Warfare Training**

Department of Defense

Marine Corps Base Hawaii  
Public Affairs Office  
MCBH Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii

U.S. Army Engineer District, Honolulu  
Environmental Technical Branch  
Fort Shafter, Hawaii

Point of Contact

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Contractor

AECOS Consultants  
Kaneohe, Hawaii

International Archaeological Research Institute, Inc.  
Honolulu, Hawaii

J. W. Morrow  
Honolulu, Hawaii

Phillip Rowell & Associates  
Kaneohe, Hawaii

Social Research Pacific, Inc.  
Kailua, Hawaii

Y. Ebisu & Associates  
Honolulu, Hawaii

Wil Chee - Planning, Inc.  
Honolulu, Hawaii

Resource Study Area

Terrestrial Biology  
Aquatic Biology  
Water Quality

Archaeology

Air Quality

Traffic

Socioeconomics  
Environmental Justice

Noise

Document Preparer

## WHAT IS NEPA?

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is a federal law that establishes policies and goals for the protection of the environment. NEPA procedures are intended to ensure that environmental information (of high quality) is available to public officials and citizens before decisions are made and before actions are taken. Accurate scientific analysis, expert agency comments, and public scrutiny are essential to NEPA. The NEPA process is intended to help public officials (1) make decisions that are based on understanding of environmental consequences; and (2) take actions that protect, restore, and enhance the environment.

## WHAT IS AN EA?

An Environmental Assessment (EA) is a public document that may be prepared for actions that are not Categorically Excluded. Categorical Exclusions pertain to actions which, under normal circumstances, have been determined to have no significant effect individually or cumulatively on the environment; hence, neither an EA nor an EIS is required. An EA may be prepared when:

- (1) the proposed action is not anticipated to have a significant impact on the environment; or
- (2) the anticipated effects of the proposed action on the environment are unknown; or
- (3) there is reason to believe that the proposed action will be environmentally controversial.

An EA will conclude with one of the following outcomes:

- (1) a Finding of No Significant Impact; or
- (2) a decision to prepare an EIS; or
- (3) a decision to withdraw the proposed action (or essentially implement No Action).

## THE NEPA PROCESS

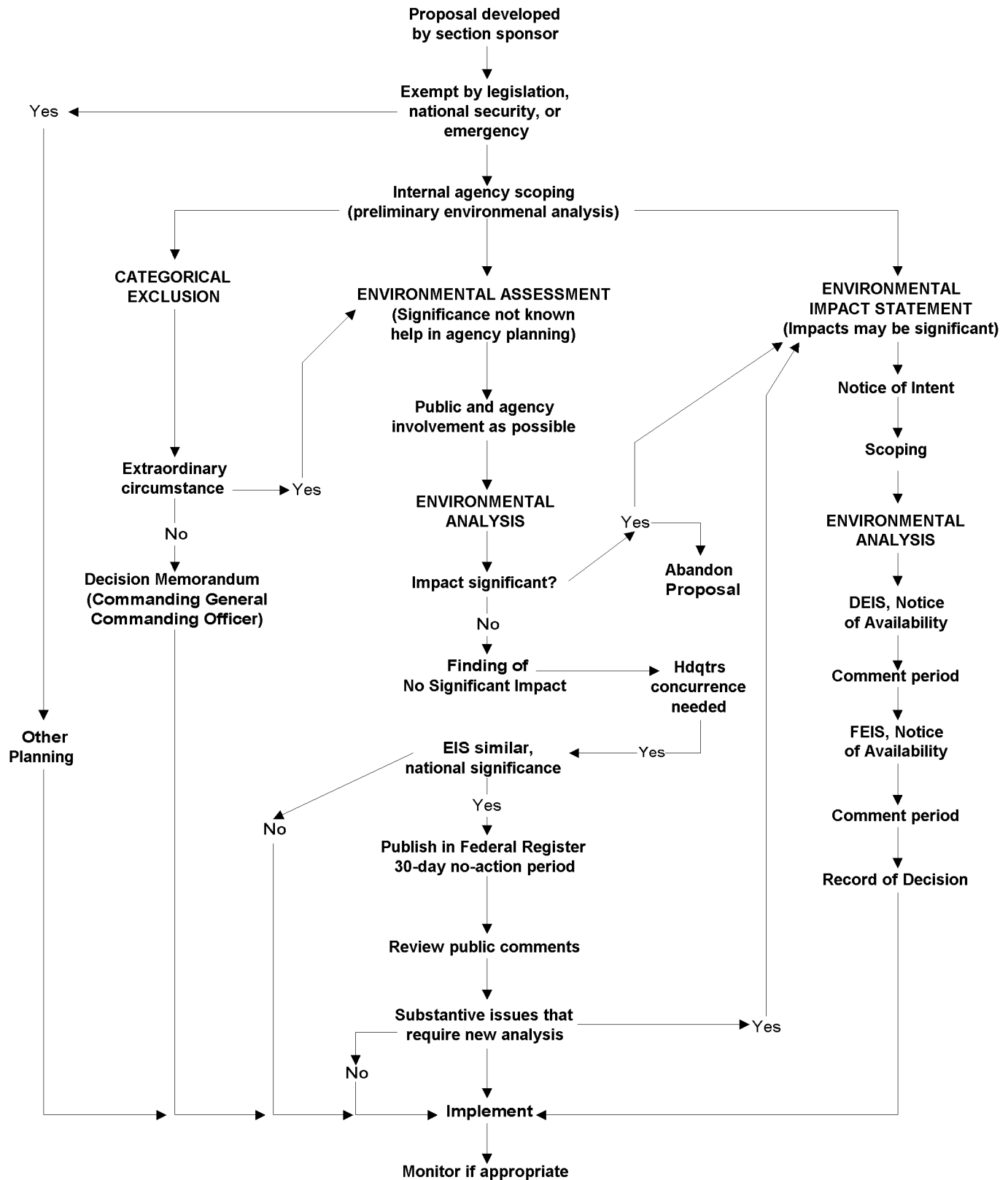


## WHAT IS AN EIS?

An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is a public document that may be prepared for major actions that are determined by the Agency to have significant impacts on the environment. An EIS is the most comprehensive form of environmental documentation under NEPA. The EIS provides a full and fair discussion of significant environmental impacts and informs the decision makers and the public of the reasonable alternatives that would avoid or minimize adverse impacts or enhance the quality of the human environment. It allows for public review and input as well as coordination with other agencies.

An EIS results in a Record of Decision (ROD). The ROD is a public record of the Agency's decision selecting one alternative for implementation from among the alternatives considered in detail, including the "No Action" alternative. Agencies may prepare an Environmental Assessment to help determine if it needs to prepare an EIS.

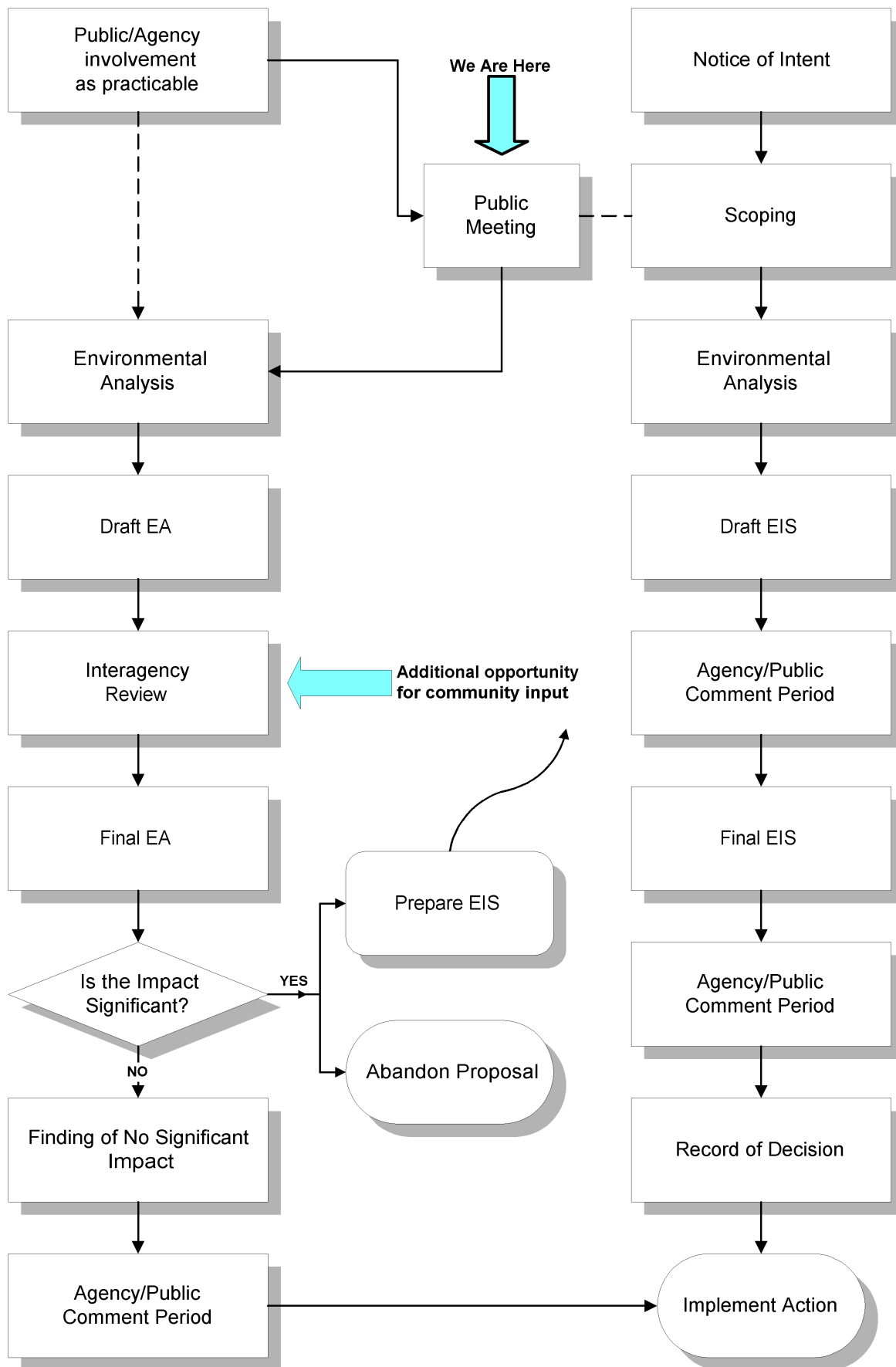
# THE NEPA PROCESS



# MCBH NEPA COMPLIANCE

## ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (Significance not known)

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (Significant Impacts)



## AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

The proposed training areas consist of the inland portions of Waikane, Kualoa, Hakipu'u and Ka'a'awa valleys which are surrounded on 3 sides by steep ridges. Streams flow through the lower portions of the valleys which, at higher elevations, are densely overgrown with vegetation. The affected environment includes archaeological sites, native flora and fauna, streams, and human activities and residences in the surrounding areas. The following studies will be conducted in support of the Environmental Assessment:

- **Air Quality** - J. W. Morrow will collect and review existing meteorological data, conduct air sampling, identify existing emission sources and proposed training related sources, and using computer models determine the predicted effects on area air quality.
- **Noise** - Y. Ebisu & Associates will measure ambient sound levels at residential areas nearest to the proposed training sites, and sound levels of blank munitions to be used during training. Empirical noise models will be applied to predict sound levels of training activities at noise-sensitive areas. DOH/DOT acceptable noise thresholds will be used to evaluate potential impacts.
- **Traffic** - Phillip Rowell and Associates will perform site surveys to determine the physical characteristics of the roadways adjacent to the proposed training areas. Peak-hour traffic volumes on adjacent roadways will be obtained. Level of service will be analyzed using methodology described in 2000 Highway Capacity Manual. Future traffic volumes will be estimated using forecasts contained in Oahu Long Range Transportation Plan. Impacts of the training related traffic will be determined based on the results of the traffic analysis.
- **Flora and Fauna (including streams)** - Field surveys to identify vertebrates, invertebrates, and plants will be conducted by AECOS Consultants working in concert with Rana Productions and Montagne Matters. Evening and night surveys to determine if the endangered Hawaiian hoary bat or nocturnally active birds (such as Pueo) occur within the study areas. Literature and aerial photos will augment fieldwork to locate areas of botanical sensitivity. Count stations will be established to identify mammals and birds. Invertebrate sampling will consist of baiting, net sweeping, and light attraction at night. Water quality samples will be collected from the streams.
- **Archaeology/Cultural** - International Archaeological Research Institute, Inc. Will conduct archival research to identify previously recorded sites. Portions of the proposed project area, selected using a predictive site discovery model which identifies areas with high probability of containing sites, will be surveyed for the presence or absence of archaeological sites. Sites encountered during the surveys will be documented and mapped using GPS. Significance evaluations of sites and analysis of potential impacts of training will be based on criteria derived from the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).
- **Socioeconomics** - Social Research Pacific, Inc. will conduct a Socio-economic Impact Assessment. Social, economic, and historical data will be gathered on the project areas. Questionnaire based interviews will be conducted with area user/interest groups, and area residents. A quantitative and qualitative, direct and indirect, social impact analysis will be prepared which includes recommendations to avoid or mitigate the impacts. Environmental justice issues will be analyzed.
- **Soil** - Surface and sub-surface soil samples will be collected by Wil Chee Planners. Discrete samples will be collected randomly while biasing the site selection to areas in which the potential for contamination is highest. Analysis of the collected samples will be conducted by Columbia Analytical Services, a U. S. Army Corps of Engineers-validated laboratory.
- **Water Quality/Hydrology** - Surface water samples will be collected by Wil Chee Planners. At least two samples will consist of runoff during or immediately following a rainfall event. Analysis will be conducted by Columbia Analytical Services.

## ACTION DESCRIPTION

The proposed training will involve an infantry Company of up to 150 Marines organized as 40-50 person Platoons, which are further divided into 10-13 person Squads. The Marines comprising these units include infantry, reconnaissance, and communications specialists. A typical training exercise will originate at MCBH Kaneohe Bay with participants boarding up to four buses and traveling via H-3 and Kamehameha Highway to the training area. On rare occasions, ground transportation may be military HMMVs and 7-ton trucks. The Marines will disembark from the buses/military vehicles at the entrance and proceed on foot into the training area where they will split up into functional units (Squads, Platoons etc). The training area will be used on average 3 to 4 days per exercise, 2 to 3 times per month under normal circumstances. There will be periods of continuous use of the area for up to 60 consecutive days, 24 hours a day, seven days a week in order to meet mission requirements. There may be other periods of up to 60 days when there will be no training at all. Once inside the training area, they will conduct the following non-live-fire training activities:

- Jungle familiarization - Troops will eat field rations (MREs), sleep on the ground, and live in the jungle during the typical 3- to 4-day training exercise.
- Patrolling - Squads will move on foot through the jungle following paths of least resistance, including stream crossings and movement along ridges above the canopy to an objective, which in some cases will be a pre-determined point on the map to develop land navigation skills, and at other times to engage other marines pre-positioned to simulate enemy forces. Mine and booby trap identification will be part of this training (no real mines or booby traps will be used).
- Ambush - Squads will conceal themselves in the foliage and attack patrolling units using blank ammunition, non-lethal chalk ammunition, paintballs, or a laser activated target system. Blank ammunition will be 5.56mm (.223 cal), 7.62mm (.30 cal), and .50 cal, fired from semi-automatic and automatic troop carried (such as the M-16 assault rifle) weapons only. This training will use the natural foliage for concealment, and some foliage may be cut for use as camouflage. Tree climbing to establish observation or sniper positions will also be involved in this exercise.
- Radio Communication - Specialized units will set up a communications antenna and establish a field communications center. This activity may involve minor brush clearing if required.
- Force-on-force - Opposing units will engage each other in simulated raids, attack/defense scenarios combining other training activities mentioned above using blank ammunition, non-lethal chalk ammunition, paintballs, or laser activated target systems. The objective of this training may include hostage rescue missions. Same types of blank ammunition/weapons described above will be used in this exercise.
- Reconnaissance - This training involves small parties of reconnaissance specialists establishing observation posts anywhere within the training area, including treetops and ridgetops. This training will include climbing and rappelling down steep sides of the ridges.
- Aviation Support - There will be no aviation support involved with the training. A medevac helicopter may be used to evacuate injured personnel in the event of an emergency.
- Mechanized support - There will be no mechanized support involved with the training beyond ground transport to the training area. Troop movement within the training area will be entirely on foot.
- Connected actions - The Marine Corps owned portion of the Waikane access road leading to the training area will be graded and resurfaced with gravel. The existing fenceline will be repaired and additional fencing will be installed on the North, East and West boundaries of the training area. Portable or composting toilets will be installed along the access road adjacent to the fenceline.

## LAND HISTORY OF WAIKANE VALLEY

- Dec. 16, 1847 - Ioane I'i and Iona Pi'ikoi testify that Waikane is among the lands of the King.
- June 18, 1847 - Kaheana and other residents of Waikane apply to the Minister of Public Instruction to have a church and school site at Waikane.
- Aug. 22, 1848 - Land granted for the support of a church and teacher at Waikane.
- Nov. 26, 1849 - Henry Dimond and Edwin O. Hall apply to Keoni Ana, Minister of Interior, to purchase the government interest in Waikane Ahupua'a at \$1.00 per acre for kula (plain lands) and \$5.00 per acre for kalo (taro) land.
- Dec. 28, 1849 - Privy Council agrees to the sale of Waikane to H. Dimond and E.O. Hall.
- June 1850 - H. Dimond and E.O. Hall write to Keoni Ana reporting that S.P. Kalama has surveyed Waikane. The land consists of 1,149 acres of kula; 78 acres of kalo land; and 500 acres of pali land.
- Aug. 28, 1850 - A.G. Thurston, surveyor, submits the list of kuleana awardees for Waikane. Thurston's list adds names Kaneiaulu and K. Koohulukeya, bringing the total number of awardees to 21.
- Apr. 21, 1854 - Dimond and Hall identify the 20 native tenants as owners of kuleana in Waikane.
- Apr. 30, 1862 - Dimond and Hall sell their interest in the land of Waikane for \$1,800 to 34 individuals. This group of individuals became known as the "Hui Kuai Aina o Waikane". These individuals were also kuleana awardees at Waikane.
- Oct 11, 1899 - L. L. McCandless Applied to the Commissioner of Public Lands for the right to lease or purchase all remaining government lands from Waikane to Ka'alaea.
- 1900-1915 McCandless brothers acquired a substantial portion of Waikane property, including kuleana lands and shares of Hui land.
- 1909 - John Kamaka and Mrs. Kaanaana acquired property in Waikane through two quitclaim deeds from McCandless and Kaukukala.
- Jan. 1913 - McCandless begins construction of the Waiahole Ditch and Tunnel System.
- May 1916 - Feeder ditch and tunnel systems from Kahana, Waikane, Waianu, and Waiahole Valleys completed.
- Oct. 1943 - U. S. Army obtained through lease inner portion of Waiahole and Waikane valleys for jungle training by the 27<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division garrisoned at Schofield Barracks (see map). This 2,000+ acre parcel was called the Waiahole Training Area.

- 1953 - a portion of the former Waiahole Training Area was leased to the U.S. Marine Corps from the McCandless estate/Waiahole Water Co. This area was named the Waikane Training Area (see map). Within this area, which covered 1,061 acres two smaller areas were designated as ordnance impact areas. The area was used for small arms fire, 3.5 inch rockets, and medium artillery targeted to the impact areas.
- 1961 - Another lease was executed among the same parties but this time including the Kamaka heirs. This lease duplicated the 1953 lease, including the designated impact areas.
- 1966 - Civil Judgement (Kamaka heirs vs McCandless heirs) gave the Kamaka heirs separate ownership of their share of the original Hui of Waikane land.
- June 1, 1972 - Civil Judgement formalized with a Quitclaim deed in which the Kamakas acquired title to 187 acres.
- 1976 - Kamaka heirs terminated the lease with the U.S. Marines. Shortly after, Marine officials notified the Kamaka family and that the termination conditions of the lease have been met, including the fact that the land was clear of ordnance. Kamaka family attorneys assert their belief that the ordnance had not been cleared.
- Aug 1976 - Marines re-investigated and conducted an ordnance clearance that resulted in the removal of 24,000 lbs. of practice ordnance and fragments, including 42 items of unexploded ordnance. The after action report concluded that the Waikane Valley Training Area can never be certified free of unexploded ordnance due to the ground cover and topography.
- 1983 - Raymond Kamaka leased 52 acres of the 187 acres from other Kamaka heirs for farming.
- Dec. 1983 - Heavy rain exposed ordnance on the property and Marine EOD removed a number of 3.5 inch rockets.
- Jan. 1984 - Marines conduct a formal sweep and removed 480 3.5 inch rockets.
- June 1984 - An intensive clearance effort removed 16,000 lbs of demilitarized ordnance (inert practice rounds) and 190 items of unexploded ordnance. After action reports supported the 1976 position that the property could never be certified clear of ordnance. These reports and public attention raised concerns of liability. Navy and Marine planners and lawyers concluded that the only good-faith solution to the problem of having ordnance-contaminated property and a lease condition that could not be met was to pay the Kamaka family fair market value for the land.
- 1992 - Security fence constructed, partially enclosing the 187 acre parcel designated as the impact area.
- June 16, 1993 - After a long process of property acquisition through condemnation, the U.S. District Court found that the Navy had given sufficient evidence that the property could not

be cleared of unexploded ordnance. This court judgement was accepted by all members of the Kamaka family except Raymond Kamaka and McRonald Kamaka.

## **U.S. MARINE CORPS PROPOSED JUNGLE WARFARE TRAINING QUESTION/COMMENT FORM**

Written questions or comments pertaining to the proposed action may be printed on this form (use additional sheets if necessary). Leave the completed form at the registration table, or mail or fax it after the meeting as indicated below. You may also e-mail written questions and comments to: **<http://www.mcbh.usmc.mil>**.

*CONTACT INFORMATION (OPTIONAL)*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

*Organization:* \_\_\_\_\_

*E-Mail:* \_\_\_\_\_

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## MAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Flip the completed form over and fold on the dotted lines
2. Seal the bottom edge with tape (no staples or glue please)
3. Provide your return address
4. Please use an envelope if mailing more than one page
5. Affix the proper postage

OR

## FAX TO:

Major Cathy Close  
Public Affairs Office  
Marine Corps Base Hawaii  
Box 63002  
MCBH Kaneohe Bay, HI 96863-3002  
Fax: (808) 257-2511

Place  
Stamp  
Here

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